



U.S. EPA
REGION III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029

1999 ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION GRANT PROFILES

DELAWARE

University of Delaware - \$13,195

Susan Whitney, Townsend Hall, Newark, DE 19717-1303

Increasing effectiveness of homeowner pesticide safety training using active learning technique.

This project motivates individuals to adopt new pesticide safety practices at home that will protect the environment. Members of the Master Gardeners Speakers Bureau are conducting workshops, based on a Train-the-Trainer Manual. The workshops, using active learning educational techniques, teach the public pesticide safety in the home. The published manual will be available on the Internet.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Kalorama Citizens Association - \$10,500

Michael Gould, P.O. Box 21311, Kalorama Station, Washington, DC 20009

The Marie Reed GLOBE Project

Thirty 4th-6th grade students at Marie Reed Community Learning Center, a public school, will benefit from Project GLOBE (Global Learning & Observations to Benefit the Environment). GLOBE is an international environmental research and education program designed to teach elementary and high school students to conduct environmental investigations based on a systematic data collection. Students will attend a new after-school and summer program which provides GLOBE classroom instruction and field work at the project site in Rock Creek Park.

MARYLAND

The Academy of Natural Sciences - \$4,096

Erin Strickland, 10545 Mackall Road, St. Leonard, MD 20685

Adopt an Oyster Bar

This pilot program is designed to educate 1200 school children in two elementary schools about the importance of oyster reef communities of the Chesapeake Bay. Built upon an existing program, every fourth grader studies the ecology of oyster reef communities during the school year. The project engages all students in the life of an oyster and similar animals and provides greater knowledge of Chesapeake Bay ecology.

Allegany County Board of Education - \$5,000

Ken Baxter, 108 Washington Street, Cumberland, MD 21502

The Beall High Environmental Education Project

This project provides 75 Beall Jr./Sr. High School science students with rich field experiences in water quality investigations relevant to their community. Students learn laboratory techniques for water testing, managing data sets, measurements and result interpretation. A web site will display data and information about the project and the participants.

Battle Creek Nature Education Society - \$4,916

Linda Fadely, P.O. Box 122, Port Republic, Calvert, MD 20676

Fourth Grade Oyster Monitoring Program Project

Twenty-seven 4th grade classes from Calvert County Public School are participating in the Oyster Monitoring Program. Students help to forward research and participate in a public awareness effort in oyster recovery in the Chesapeake Bay. The program involves studying the significance of the oyster's decline and assists scientists in determining possible causes. The program provides students with a remarkable opportunity to make an impact on Bay restoration and discover for themselves the importance of ecosystem protection.

Calvert County Public Schools - \$5,000

JoAnn Roberts, 1305 Dares Beach Road, Calvert County, Prince Frederick, MD 20678

Making the Classroom Connection Real World to Real Science

This is a mentoring program for teachers of grades 1-5, developed with local and state environmental research scientists. The program provides an opportunity for teachers to work with scientists looking for answers to Maryland's key environmental problems. Teachers are mentored by scientists to connect learning about real environmental problems with real science and math skills in the classroom. Ten elementary teachers meet with a scientist for one week and write a classroom performance task which connects their mentoring experience with classroom instruction. These teachers will share their experiences and activities with other teachers in Calvert County.

Wicomico County Department of Recreation and Parks - \$5,000

David Perry, 500 Glen Avenue, Salisbury, MD 21804

Pemberton Historical Park Summer Camp

Wicomico is a six-week summer day camp for school children ages 5-14 on the Delmarva Peninsula (on 247 acres) which addresses local and global environmental concerns. The camp helps students, especially those from low-income and minority households, to identify community issues through historical land use studies, field studies, media resources, canoe trip excursions, and other methods. A second priority is identifying how human interaction with the Eastern Shore environment has changed since the colonial period.

PENNSYLVANIA, MARYLAND, VIRGINIA, DELAWARE

Northeast Sustainable Energy Association - \$7,269

Nancy Hazard, 50 Miles Street, Greenfield, MA 01301

Teacher Workshops on Transportation

Northeast Sustainable Energy Association is designed to enhance middle school teachers' skills environmental education skills by offering a new teacher training workshop with a unique set of interdisciplinary environmental education materials. "Future Wheels for a Sustainable America" was designed to raise teacher, student, and parent awareness of environmental and health hazards associated with transportation choices. The workshops are held in EPA Region III during the 1999-2000 school year and will offer resources to 5,000 middle school teachers. The teachers use the lessons with about 3,000 students from a wide range of ethnic and economic backgrounds, living in urban, suburban and rural areas.

PENNSYLVANIA

City of Philadelphia - Department of Public Health - \$5,000

Richard Tobin, 1101 Market Street, 8th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19107

Environmental Education Project

This project is coordinated by the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CLPPP) of the City of Philadelphia Department of Public Health (PDPH). CLPPP has a long history of identifying, monitoring, reducing, and preventing lead poisoning in Philadelphia. Free public workshops on safe lead hazard reduction will be held at various sites throughout the city, such as local home repair supply stores. These workshops teach the staff and customers how to safely abate lead hazards in their own homes.

Downingtown Area School District (DASD) - \$4,945

Holly M. Maddams, 122 Wallace Avenue, Downingtown, PA 19335

A Proposal to Develop a Butterfly Exhibit at Springton Manor Farm

The Downingtown Area School District and Springton Manor Farm will develop an interactive butterfly exhibit at Springton Manor Farm in Glenmoore, PA. The exhibit includes a butterfly house and garden which provides residents of Chester County and the surrounding areas with an interactive environment to learn about butterflies and create their own backyard butterfly garden. Downingtown High School students are working collaboratively with park staff to develop and operate the butterfly exhibit and corresponding website.

Drexel University - \$22,828

Frank T. Robinson, 3141 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104

The Urban Environment Project (UEP)

The goal of the Urban Environment Project (UEP) is to give urban students, grades 7-8 from Philadelphia public, non-public and parochial schools, a better understanding of their environment as an interconnected system. The project includes learning by hands-on gathering and analyzing data, using inquiry-based teaching to teach about the environment consistent with state and federal guidelines for science and mathematics education. The UEP is developing a diverse set of learning activities and experiments that address issues of the urban environment such as air quality, lead in residential paint, and urban land use.

Face to Face - \$5,000

Eileen Smith, 109 E. Price street, Philadelphia, PA 19144

Camp St. Vincent Pond and Habitat Project

Face to Face is a non-profit organization that provides outreach services to economically disadvantaged people in the Germantown section of Philadelphia. This proposed project will address education reform and improvement by incorporating environmental education curriculum into the existing summer camp format. The goal of the Camp St. Vincent Pond and Habitat Project is to create a pond and butterfly garden/habitat that will serve as a teaching tool to educate neighborhood children between the ages of 5-12. The project is a hands-on learning experience for students placing an emphasis on the basics of biology, chemistry and physics and introduces them to the interdisciplinary nature of environmental science. The project makes science accessible, interesting, and challenging for the camp attendees by offering activities which stimulate inquiry and problem solving skills and encourage group decision-making.

Friends of Salt Springs Park, Inc. - \$5,000

Susan D. Chance, P.O. Box 541, Montrose, PA 18801

Earth Keepers, Earth Education Program

This program is a three-day curriculum, sponsored by Earth Keepers, offered to 4th, 5th, and 6th graders from six rural school districts. Children are bused to Salt Springs State Park to participate in outdoor learning activities. Earth Keepers expects as many as 150 students to participate in this program during the course of an academic year. With educational reform as its priority, the project will improve the students' ability for critical-thinking about environmental issues with an emphasis on inquiry, problem solving, participatory decision making, and leadership.

Girls' Club of Allentown, Inc. - \$5,000

Deborah Fries, 1302 Turner Street, Allentown, PA 18102

We CARE Program (Children Acting Responsibly Towards the Environment)

This program provides the Girls' Club of Allentown participants--low-income girls, ages 5-18--with an environmental program designed to increase awareness of individual responsibility, and to promote involvement and action in environmental activities. The second year of the WE CARE Program emphasizes pollution prevention. Forty girls, age 11-18, participate in an Environmental Explorers Club which includes class time, hands-on field trips coordinated with our partners, and working with younger girls. This grant will specifically fund age appropriate, environmental education classes and pollution prevention activities for 125 girls, ages 5-10.

Group Against Smog and Pollution, Inc. - \$4,850

Suzanne Seppi, P.O. Box 5165, Pittsburgh, PA 15206

Education and Community Air Monitor-Air Quality Program

This is an Air Quality Education Project based on sophisticated educational air monitoring and software program used in schools on a rotating basis for air investigations (software is also used for community/local air problems and demonstrations). All equipment and materials are available for fifteen middle schools and high schools in Allegheny County.

Pennsylvania Center for Environmental Education - \$5,000

Dr. Paulette Johnson, Slippery Rock University, Slipper Rock, PA 16053

Essentials of Environmental Education for Pennsylvania

The eight-hour "Essentials" workshop includes a printed manual and a companion primer. Both publications are collections of basic environmental education information, with an emphasis on topics specific to Pennsylvania. The one-day "Essentials" pilot workshops are offered in the Western and Eastern regions of the Commonwealth. After piloting, the workshops will be widely available throughout Pennsylvania. The target audience for the workshops is K-12 classroom teachers and non-formal educators with little prior background or training in environmental education. Non-formal educators include staff from wildlife conservation centers, nature centers, parks, zoos, and other organizations with educational missions.

The Pennsylvania School for the Deaf - \$4,000

Joseph E. Fischgrund, 100 W. School House Lane, Philadelphia, PA 19144

Adventures in Learning Program

The Adventures in Learning Program combines the physical resources and staff expertise of Penn State University's Mont Alto Campus and The Pennsylvania School for the Deaf (PSD), providing minority students, ages 13 through 15, with severe to profound hearing losses with a university experience. This unique collaborative project brings students from PSD to Penn State's Mont Alto campus for a four-day environmental learning and college living experience. The program emphasizes success-oriented, experiential learning activities that enhance self-esteem.

The Pennsylvania State University - The Dickinson School of Law - \$5,000

Christine Kellett, 110 Technology Center Building, University Park, PA 16802

Environmental Law Regulation Training for Secondary School Vocational Agriculture Teachers

The Agricultural Law Research and Education Center and its partners are organizing and presenting a problem-based learning workshop for Vocational Agriculture teachers, a group not ordinarily reached by traditional environmental education programs. This project will be delivered in a one- or two-day workshop that will be held at the Dickinson School of Law in Carlisle, PA in June 2000. Secondary School Vocational Agriculture teachers from Northeast and Middle Atlantic States are the primary target audience, however, other groups such as cooperative extension faculty and staff and high school science and government teachers will be invited.

Pocono Environmental Education Center - \$2,465

John Padalino, R.R. 2, Box 1010, Dingmans Ferry, PA 18328

Much Ado About Water

The Pocono Environmental Education Center (PEEC) will expand an existing environmental education program, the School Water Quality Monitoring Program, by directly involving parents with their children in an active team-learning experience. Along with Pocono Elementary School,

parents/guardians will come to the PEEC to study water quality and environmental issues with their children. Thirty-five fifth grade students, their parents and two teachers from Pocono Elementary School will participate in the program. This will strengthen the common ground between the water quality issues and the family unit and empower the family with the knowledge and means to study and protect their local water quality.

School District of Philadelphia - \$4,280

Joanne Maule-Schmidt, J. S. Jenks Elementary School

Room 408, 21st Street, South of Parkway, Philadelphia, PA 19103

Water, Our Link to the Schuylkill, Downhill to the Estuary.

This program will involve 600 students in grades K-8, parents, and the community of J.S. Jenks School and will involve the study of water and its relationship to the Delaware Estuary. The scientific study of the natural environment and the artistic study of the natural environment will be explored. The students will go on field trips to study how they can relate to the water historically, geographically, environmentally, culturally, and ecologically.

VIRGINIA

Buchanan County Public Schools - \$5,000

Franklin Jones, P.O. Box 833, Grundy, VA 24614

"Save Our Streams" Teacher Training

The purpose of this project is to improve environmental education and awareness of stream and water quality in Buchanan County by providing workshops based on the Izaak Walton League of America's Save Our Streams curriculum. The project goals and objectives encourage participating Buchanan County faculty to become competent in using and implementing the Save Our Streams curriculum, increase environmental knowledge, enhance critical thinking, and promote awareness of water quality. This program will be implemented in classrooms and science seminar groups, forming a network of stream monitoring teams across the county. It encompasses twenty Buchanan County K-12 grade teachers, who will then incorporate the ideas into their lesson plans.

Charlotte County Public Schools, Randolph-Henry High School - \$5,000

Carolyn M. Baker, P.O. Box 668, Charlotte Court House, VA 23923

A High School Land Lab

The Land Lab is a demonstration site for good farming practices and offers alternatives to tobacco farming. The high school agriculture class will mentor 60 preschool students and establish an innovative, learning environment that incorporates curriculum objectives and environmental awareness. The agriculture students will work with the preschool students to plant fall and spring crops and watch them grow in their natural environment, learn names of farm animals and their off-spring, adopt a calf to feed and care for, and study the growth of the catfish.

Essex County Public Schools - \$14,600

Elissa F. Brown, P.O. Box 756, Tappahannock, VA 22560

R.E.A.C.H. (Recognizing Environmental Activities Creating Health Hazards)

The Chesapeake Bay Governor's School for Marine and Environmental Science is a public secondary program serving 11th & 12th graders in a half day setting. Eighty one students from twelve school systems in the Middle Peninsula and Northern Neck regions of Virginia will participate. Through a rigorous and enriching curriculum consisting of college level mathematics

and science courses, students have the opportunity to foster an appreciation and respect for environmental issues by integrating science, technology, community service, and research. The twelve school districts that are participating are unique, yet they share a common concern for the well-being and preservation of the Chesapeake Bay and its Tributaries.

Montgomery County Public Schools - \$4,800

Catherine R. Ney, 200 Junkin Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073

Designing and Implementing a Wildlife Program: Landscaping and Mapping a Model Environmental Education Project.

This is a community-based project at Christiansburg Elementary School (CES) in cooperation with the Virginia Institute for Connecting Science Research to the Classroom (VT-ICSRC). The project will serve as a model to educate the public about the importance of wildlife habitat preservation in their community. CES students are using on-line media resources to design, build, and link CES Wildlife Web pages to the Internet. The "Teaching Inquiry with the Latest Technology" (TILT) Conference will increase public awareness and concern for wildlife. The target audience is the CES community of students, teachers, parents and Virginia Tech's ICSRC. The public will be reached via the media, CES Wildlife Web pages, the TILT Conference, and workshop training.

WEST VIRGINIA

Little Eagle Childcare Center - \$5,000

Ms. Paula Marrone-Reese, P.O. Box 1208/STOP 900, Martinsburg, WV 25401

Beginning Bee's - Bugs, Birds, and Bushes

This project will provide preschool children with exposure to their environment. The proposal will develop an environmental education site that will include native plants, vegetables designed to attract butterflies and other insects. A water site will be installed for water plants and aquatic animals (tadpoles, goldfish), and regular observation sites will be created. The project will include two self-pollinating fruit trees. Local preschool teachers will assist. The goal of this program is to create an atmosphere where at an early age, children can become aware and challenged by their environment.